**Amendments to the Claims**:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.    (Currently Amended)  A teleconference system for supporting realization of cooperative work among a plurality of conference systems, the teleconference system comprising:

site systems each being installed at a plurality of sites, each site systems being configured to operate the corresponding conference system;

a shared workspace server configured to connect the site systems to each other so as to allow users of the site systems to share a workspace for using a task among the site systems and for sharing and editing files to enable the users to perform cooperative work between the site systems, wherein the files are located in the shared workspace;

an authenticator to control user access to the files in the shared workspace based on an access control list; and

a prioritizor to assign priority for displaying an initial workspace. workspace based on at least one of the following items of information:

(i)      network information of a server;

(ii)     position information of the server;

(iii)    information regarding a name of the shared workspace, file name and URL received from the server;

(iv)     a user's schedule information and current time;

(v)      company user name information; and

(vi)     information indicating what shared workspaces were used in the past.

2.	(Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to manage a session for managing connection of the site systems, a file used in a conference and created as a record of the conference, reference information to a resource relevant to the conference, and history information of file access made by conference participants.

3.	(Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to provide a user interface for connecting a session and making reference to a file and/or a resource.

4.	(Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to instruct, when a client starts a session, all other clients already starting the session to connect to the client.

5.	(Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the site system comprises:

an electronic whiteboard configured to provide a graphical user interface provided by a shared workspace;

a video and audio server configured to code and decode video and audio and to transmit and receive video and audio to and from any other site system for sharing motion and behavior of participants at the sites;

an authentication unit configured to authenticate identification of the participants; and

a site server configured to manage a session in the site systems, a file used in a conference and created as a record of the conference, reference information to a resource relevant to the conference, and history information of file access made by the participants.

6.    (Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to select a workspace based on user identification information transmitted from the site system.

7.    (Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to select the workspace based on the user identification information transmitted using an IC card by the site system.

8.    (Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to select a workspace based on workspace specification information transmitted from the site system.

9.    (Original)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to select the workspace based on workspace specification information transmitted by the site system based on information retained on an IC card.

10.    (Previously Presented)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to respond to a file reference request received from the site system, to start application software to reference the file specified in the file reference request, and to provide an input/output interface with the application software for each site system with a session established.

11.    (Previously Presented)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the shared workspace server is further configured to, in a case where the file specified in the file reference request is not previously registered in the workspace, temporarily register the file specified in the file reference request.

12.    (Previously Presented)  The teleconference system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the site system is configured to start application software to reference the file

specified in a file reference request, and to provide an input/output interface with the application software for any other site system with a session established.

13. (Previously Presented) The teleconference system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the site system is further configured to receive the file specified in a file reference request from any other site system, to start application software to reference the file specified in the file reference request, and to provide an input/output interface with the application software for any other site system with a session established.

14. (Currently Amended) A teleconference support method for supporting realization of cooperative work among a plurality of conference systems, the method comprising:

providing at least one workspace to be shared by one or more conference systems;

opening at least one workspace of the at least one workspace in response to workspace selection of a user;

adding the at least one opened workspace to an active workspace;

managing use of the at least one opened workspace;

allowing users of the conference systems to share and to edit files to perform cooperative work between conference systems, wherein the files are located in the opened workspace;

authenticating user access of the files in the opened workspace based on an access control list; and

assigning priority for displaying an initial ~~workspace~~ workspace based on at least one of the following items of information:

(i)     network information of a server;

(ii)    position information of the server;

(iii)     information regarding a name of the shared workspace, file name and URL received from the server;

(iv)     a user's schedule information and current time;

(v)     company user name information; and

(vi)     information indicating what shared workspaces were used in the past.

15.     (Original)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14 further comprising providing a user interface for displaying workspace candidates required for the user to select a workspace.

16.     (Original)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the managing use of the workspace includes providing a user interface for making reference to a file and/or a resource.

17.     (Original)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the managing use of the workspace includes registering reference to a file and/or a resource.

18.     (Original)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the managing use of the workspace includes switching a workspace, starting a subworkspace, and terminating the workspace.

19.     (Original)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 18, wherein in the managing use of the workspace, the original workspace is deactivated in the switching of the workspace and/or in the starting of the subworkspace.

20.     (Original)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the managing use of the workspace includes instructing, when a client starts a session, all other clients already starting the session to connect to the client.

21.     (Previously Presented)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the opening of the workspace includes selecting a workspace based on user identification information transmitted from the conference system where the user is.

22.     (Previously Presented)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the opening of the workspace includes selecting a workspace based on user identification information transmitted using an IC card by the conference system where the user is.

23.     (Previously Presented)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the opening the workspace includes selecting a workspace based on workspace specification information transmitted from the conference system where the user is.

24.     (Previously Presented)  The teleconference support method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the opening of the workspace includes selecting a workspace based on workspace specification information transmitted by the conference system where the user is based on information retained on an IC card.

25.     (Currently Amended)  A computer readable medium storing a program causing a computer to execute processing for supporting realization of cooperative work among a plurality of conference systems in a computer system, the processing comprising:

         providing at least one workspace to be shared by one or more conference systems;

         opening at least one workspace of the at least one workspace in response to workspace selection of a user;

         adding the at least one opened workspace to an active workspace;

         managing use of the at least one opened workspace;

allowing users of the conference systems to share and to edit files to enable

users to perform cooperative work between conference systems, wherein the files are located

in the opened workspace;

authenticating user access of the files in the opened workspace based on an

access control list; and

assigning priority for displaying an initial ~~workspace.~~ workspace based on at

least one of the following items of information:

    (i)     network information of a server;

    (ii)    position information of the server;

    (iii)   information regarding a name of the shared workspace, file

name and URL received from the server;

    (iv)   a user's schedule information and current time;

    (v)    company user name information; and

    (vi)   information indicating what shared workspaces were used in

the past.

26.    (Currently Amended)  A teleconference system for supporting realization of

cooperative work among a plurality of conference systems, the teleconference system

comprising:

site systems, each being installed at a plurality of sites, each site systems being

configured to operate the corresponding conference system;

a shared workspace server configured to connect the site systems to each other

and to provide a workspace, which is shared among the site systems, and in which users of

the site systems share and edit files cooperatively;

a storage that stores the files which have been shared and edited, to allow a

user to access the files after the sharing and the editing are completed; and

a prioritizor to assign priority for displaying an initial ~~workspace~~ workspace based on at least one of the following items of information:

    (i)     network information of a server;

    (ii)    position information of the server;

    (iii)   information regarding a name of the shared workspace, file name and URL received from the server;

    (iv)    a user's schedule information and current time;

    (v)     company user name information; and

    (vi)    information indicating what shared workspaces were used in the past.